

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AID-05 SCCT-01 SY-04 A-01 OPR-01

NIC-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /068 W

----- 096800

P R 101735Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3842

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

JCS

DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 1097

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 5-6 DISORDERS: PRESS REPORTING AND OTHER
DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LIMA 1089

1. THERE FOLLOWS INFORMATION REPORTED IN FEBRUARY 10 LIMA
PRESS.

2. THE CENTRAL ZONE MILITARY COMMAND HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE
CURFEW IS SHORTENED AND WILL NOW RUN FROM 11 P.M. TO 5 A.M.
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. ANOTHER CENTRAL ZONE COMMUNIQUE, REPORTS
86 CIVILIAN DEATHS BUT STATES THAT NO MILITARY OR GC DEATHS
OCCURRED. COMMUNIQUE DECLARES THAT 162 WERE INJURED AND THAT
1,012 HAVE BEEN DETAINED (THESE ARE OFFICIAL FIGURES ALTHOUGH
THE POPULACE ASSUMES THAT HUNDREDS DIED, INCLUDING LARGE
NUMBER OF GC PERSONNEL. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE NUMBER OF
CIVILIAN DEATHS IN SLOSE TO 200).

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3. PRESS PUBLISHES APRA COMMUNIQUE CONDEMING VIOLENCE

AND REJECTING CHARGES MADE BY "AGENTS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST IMPERIALISM" THAT APRA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DISORDERS.

4. NEWSPAPERS REPORT PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY ZIMMERMANN'S COMMENTS UPON HIS RETURN FROM CHILE. ZIMMERMANN CRITICIZED FOREIGN PRESS DISTORTION, REPORTEDLY NAMING UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL. (GOP APPARENTLY HAS IT IN FOR UPI.)

5. GOVERNMENT-OWNED CRONICA PUBLISHES PICTURE OF ONE OF ALLEGED RINGLEADERS OF DEMONSTRATIONS TALKING DAYS EARLIER TO NEWLY-ELECTED LIMA BAR ASSOCIATION DEAN (AND APRISTA) CARLOS ENRIQUE FERREYROS. CRONICA SAYS "THIS IS THE PLOT. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?". (COMMENT: LA CRONICA AND PRESIDENTIALPRESS SECRETARY ZIMMERMANN ARE BLAMING APRA AND NOT CIA FOR RIOTS. TIE-IN OF APRA ACTIVIST FERREYROS TO RIOT PARTICIPANTS MAY PRESAGE ACTION, POSSIBLY DEPORTATION, OF LATTER.)

6. RADICAL EXPRESO HAS LITTLE NEW TO SAY. IN ITS EDITORIAL, IT CALLS UPON REVOLUTION TO ATTACK CIA AND APRA FRONTALLY.

7. LA PRENSA EDITORIAL REJECTS APRA LEADER HAYA DE LA TORRE'S REPORTED COMMENTS TO LA OPINION OF BUENOS AIRES. HAYA APPARENTLY SAID THAT "THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT RMED FORCES (UNITY) IS CRACKED". LA PRENSA REJECTS HAYA'S WORDS. (ACCORDING TO AP CORRESPONDENT, HAYA ALSO ADMITTED THAT SEVERAL APRISTAS MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS BUT THAT THIS WAS NOT PARTY'S FAULT, THAT APRISTAS COULD NOT BE MUZZLED FOREVER. IN FRANCE PRESSE PUBLISHED VERSION, HAYA SYAS THAT APRA HAS TO CORRECT COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA THAT SEEKS TO IMPLICATE APRA AND CIA IN DISORDERS. HYA EXPRESSES SYMPATHY FOR GC AND STATES THAT MORALES BERMUDEZ ASSUMPTION OF PREMIER-SHIP IS "A VERY POSITIVE CHANGE".)

8. IN ANOTHER EDITORIAL, LA PRENSA SAYS THAT "DESTRUCTION OF CIVIC CENTER WAS ONE OF THE MOST EVIDENT ACTS OF APRA AND CIA TO SABOTAGE. . IMAGE OF PERU" IN ORDER TO BLOCK MARCH 12-26 UNIDO CONFERENCE AND A LATER NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE (NAC) MINISTERIAL MEETING. LA PRENSA STATES THAT BOTH MEETINGS WILL BE CELEBRATED IN LIMA, COST WHAT IT MAY. (COMMENT: NEITHER CONFIDENTIAL

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PA PRENSA NOR OTHER NEWSPAPERS MENTION THAT DEMONSTRATORS ATTACKED CIVIC CENTER BECAUSE IT HEADQUARTERS SINAMOS. HOWEVER, ONLY CONVENTION FACILITITES WERE DESTROYED.) DEAN

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